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THE OLD TURTLE HOUSE ·
GREENPORT · NEW YORK ·
Columbia Co

· H.A.D.S. · 5A · 21 ·

HABS
NY
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· PHOTOGRAPHS ·
· WRITTEN · HISTORICAL · AND · DESCRIPTIVE · DATA ·
· DISTRICT · NO. 5 ·

· HISTORIC · AMERICAN · BUILDINGS · SURVEY ·
· NORMAN R. STURGIS · DISTRICT OFFICER ·
· 353 BROADWAY · ALBANY · N. Y. ·

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OLD TURTLE HOUSE
Greenport, Columbia County, New York

Owner: Hans Folkers.

Date of Erection: Between 1800 and 1815 (?).

Architect and Builder: No record.

Materials of Construction: Brick.

Number of Stories: Two, and basement.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

OLD TURTLE HOUSE
GREENPORT, N. Y.

This house is believed to have been built between 1800 and 1815 by a retired sea captain, Joab Center. He is said to have employed an Italian architect, but there is no indication in the design to corroborate this tradition.

The house is unique by reason of the east and west curved pediments, which give the roof the appearance of a turtle's shell, from which the traditional name of the house is undoubtedly derived. The columns supporting these pediments are apparently solid wood and are said to have been made from the masts of old ships.

Since 1921 the house has been owned by Mr. Hans Folkers.

A. L. Delehanty
Author.

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